

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

No Company or Entity that uses the public airways for FREE should have the right to demand that their PROPAGANDA is aired in an effort to sway the opinions of the general public. THEY ALSO DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO INSIST OR DEMAND THAT THEIR STATIONS AIR THEIR OPINION AND DISCOURSE. If they wish to do something that is so politically motivated, THEY MUST PAY FOR THE AIR TIME NOT USE FREE AIR TIME.

These types of actions, by the Sinclair Broadcasting Group, show exactly why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.